

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 FBOE-00 OC-05 CCO-00 A-01 /024 W

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R 142211Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9810

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1952

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM ABLD ASEC

SUBJECT: NIGHT WATCHMAN OR GUARD FOR PREVIOUS LOCATION OF CONGEN
MONTREAL

FOR SY/FO; EUR/EX

1. THE RSO HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE EMBASSY REQUEST FOR A GUARD SERVICE FOR THE VACANT BUILDINGS OF THE PREVIOUS LOCATION OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL MONTREAL IS UNDECIDED. THE RSO FEELS AN ADVERSE DECISION WILL BE UNFORTUNATE AND COULD WELL RESULT IN EXTENSIVE DAMAGE NOT ONLY TO THE BUILDINGS BUT DAMAGE AND THEFT TO THE REMAINING FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT. FURTHER, UNTIL THE COMMUNICATIONS VAULT AT THE NEW LOCATION IS COMPLETED, ESTIMATED TO BE JUNE 15, THE SINGLE COMMUNICATOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO WORK IN AN UNPROTECTED LOCATION WHICH COULD RESULT IN PERSONAL HARM TO HIM AND UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THE CLASSIFIED FACILITIES IN THE EXISTING COMMUNICATIONS ROOM.

2. TSO GROB AND THE RSO SURVEYED BOTH OLD OFFICE BUILDINGS THURSDAY, MAY 13, TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF POSSIBLY INSTALLING INTRUSION ALARMS ON A TEMPORARY BASIS. UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO THE CONFIGURATION OF BOTH BUILDINGS, IT WAS DETERMINED SUCH AN ALARM SYSTEM WOULD NOT BE PRACTICAL AND WOULD PROBABLY EQUAL THE COST OF A TEMPORARY GUARD SERVICE UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT FBO DISPOSES OF THE BUILDINGS. IF THE DECISION IS TO BE BASED ON COSTS, IT SHOULD
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BE POINTED OUT THE VALUE OF THE STRUCTURES AND THE

EQUIPMENT THERIN FAR OUTWEIGHS THE COSTS OF PROTECTING THEM. ALSO, MONTREAL HAS A SERIOUS CRIME PROBLEM AND THE CONGEN'S MOVE HAS BEEN WELL PUBLICIZED. THIS PUBLICITY, INTENDED TO ALERT THE PUBLIC TO THE NEW LOCATION OF THE CONSULATE, COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN REGARD TO THE MCGREGOR STREET SITE.

3. IT WILL BE APPRECIATED IF THE DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE A FAVORABLE DECISION AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY APPROVAL AND FUNDING FOR GUARD SERVICE UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE CONGEN'S PREVIOUS LOCATION CAN EITHER BE SOLD OR LEASED TO NEW OCCUPANTS.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OTTAWA01952
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760188-0664
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760553/aaaabtlk.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by wolfsd>; APPROVED <26 JAN 2005 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIGHT WATCHMAN OR GUARD FOR PREVIOUS LOCATION OF CONGEN MONTREAL
TAGS: ACOM, ABLD, ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006